

TBA Bandmasters of the Year 2015

Richard and Barbara Lambrecht

Richard Lambrecht

Richard Lambrecht joined the music faculty of his alma mater, the University of Texas at El Paso in 1996, following a thirty-year tenure as Director of Bands at Coronado High School. He continued to teach band in the El Paso ISD at Bassett Middle School and Coronado High School and in New Mexico at Oñate High School while teaching horn at UTEP. In 2014, in addition to his duties as professor of horn, he was named assistant director of the UTEP Marching Band.

During Rick's three decades as director, the Coronado Band garnered many awards, including both the Sousa Foundation's Sudler Flag of Honor for concert band and the Sudler Shield of Excellence for marching band. Coronado's band gained fame across the Southwest and eventually the nation as it won numerous competitions, performed on national television, and toured Mexico and Europe. Highlights of those awards include consistent placement in the Top Five at TMEA Honor Band competitions and being named Grand Champion at NMSU's Tournament of Bands 17 times. When finally allowed to enter UIL competition, the CHS band immediately qualified for the Texas State Marching

Contest. Perhaps the highlight of Rick's career at Coronado was the invitation from the Russian Ministry of Culture to perform as the only North American unit in the 1996 May Day celebrations



in Moscow. During that trip, the band played a concert in the famed Tchaikovsky Hall, at Poklana Gora (World War 2 Memorial) and in Red Square for then-president Boris Yeltsin.

Rick's passion for music is well-known to El Pasoans. He is in his fiftieth season in the El Paso Symphony Orchestra, forty-eight seasons as principal horn, and thirty seasons while he was Director of Bands at Coronado High School. He is also a founding member of El Paso Brass, a quintet that has been performing together since 1972. In Brass in Class weekly performances for elementary and middle schools in the metropolitan El Paso area,

he has performed for more than a million students. El Paso Brass has also been featured performer with many symphony orchestras, and has been guest artist at The Midwest Clinic and featured artist at the New York Brass Conference. Rick has performed with the Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic Orchestra in a tour of Turkey, with The World's Largest Horn Quartet at International Horn Society and at Hornswoggle. Playing Principal Horn in the Roswell Symphony Orchestra, UACJ Orchestra in Juarez, Mexico and the El Paso Opera round-out his current activity as a hornist in the El Paso/Southwest area.

Rick's personal honors include TBA's Meritorious Achievement Award in 2008, his 2010 induction into the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame, and the University of Texas at El Paso's 2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award. His professional affiliations include Phi Beta Mu, International Horn Society, American Federation of Musicians, as well as TMEA and TBA.

He has served on the Board of Directors of El Paso Symphony, is a former president of Texas Bandmasters Association, served as TMEA Band Chairman of Region 22 for twenty-five years and is the *(continued on page 4)*

Barbara Lambrecht

Barbara Lambrecht received her education and preparation to be a band director from her teachers, J. R. McEntyre (Permian High School and Bonham Junior High), Robert Maddox (Odessa High), and Dean Killion (Texas Tech)—all of whom were chosen TBA Bandmasters of the Year. She holds degrees from Texas Tech University and The University of North Texas. Barbara has recently semi-retired after teaching band and orchestra at every level from elementary through university. She remains on the faculty of New Mexico State University as an adjunct professor in music education, mentors band directors in the El Paso area, and teaches flute sectionals and private lessons.

Honored numerous times by her colleagues, Mrs. Lambrecht has just been elected to the Women Band Directors International Hall of Fame and will be inducted in the spring of 2015. In 2009 Barbara was inducted into the Phi Beta Mu-sponsored Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame. She received Texas Tech University's Distinguished Music Educator Award, Tau Beta Sigma's national Outstanding Service to Music Award, the Texas Chamber of Commerce Cultural Award, National Band Association Achievement Award, Texas Music Educators Association Achievement Award, and twice had her "day" proclaimed by the city council. Additionally, she was chosen as one of the 2000 Outstanding Musicians of the 20th

Century, and was named to Who's Who of American Women.

Barbara's bands have received the Sousa Foundation's Sudler Cup of Excellence, Texas Music Educators Association Honor Band, New Mexico Honor Band, and have performed at Midwest, TMEA, and NMMEA conventions. Bands under her direction have received Superior ratings and Outstanding In Class at countless competitions across the nation, were named New Mexico State Concert Band champions, and were chosen to perform on the White House lawn for President Ronald Reagan.

Active in the band directors' fraternity Phi Beta Mu, Barbara currently serves on the Board of Directors of the International Phi Beta Mu. She has presented numerous clinics at Texas Bandmasters Association and Texas Music Educators Association clinic/conventions and performs regularly with the Phi Beta Mu Reading Band at TBA. In addition she is a charter member of Texas Music Adjudicators Association and has served as a region secretary and band chairman for Texas Music Educators Association. On the national level, Mrs. Lambrecht holds membership in and has served as clinic coordinator for Women Band Directors International. She has served on the Sousa Foundation's Sudler Flag and Sudler Cup selection committees, and organized CBDNA's Small College Intercollegiate Band.

Mrs. Lambrecht has written for and served as Contributing Editor

for *The Instrumentalist*. Additional articles of hers have appeared in *Southwestern Musician* and *Bandmasters Review*. She also writes and arranges music for band. Hal Leonard, E.C. Schirmer, TRN, and RBC Music Publishers publish her band and orchestra pieces. In 2010 she organized the El Paso version of Young Educator Seminars (YES). Appropriately named SI (Sharing Information), YES/SI assists young teachers in transitioning from university study to band directing. In 2009 Barbara founded El Paso's Edge of Texas Concert (Community) Band and serves as its Artistic Director and Conductor. She is also flutist in the Roswell Symphony Orchestra.

Barbara feels fortunate to have worked with students in Ralls, Seymour, Arlington, El Paso, Belton, and Las Cruces, NM. They have enriched her life and fueled her passion for music and teaching. She is thankful to her parents for providing her with a love for the arts and a confidence in herself that she could become anything she dreamed, her siblings for their love and fellow directors for the support they have given over the years. She feels especially lucky to be married to Richard Lambrecht (fellow musician, teacher, and honoree) and mother of Chris Prentice (Chicago actor), Chris Lambrecht (Klein ISD band director), and Ricky Lambrecht (former teacher). She has the finest daughter-in-law and grandsons anywhere: Stephanie, Ryan, Collin, and Mason Lambrecht.

Richard Lambrecht, continued

author of several articles for national music magazine, *The Instrumentalist*. He has given numerous clinics for TMEA and TBA, and has conducted honor bands across the West and Southwest.

Rick is an adjudicator, clinician and mentor for all levels of music. Marching bands, concert bands, and orchestras all clamor for his assistance as they prepare for performances and competitions.

Rick credits his success in music to his upbringing on the farm, where the work is hard and unending, and failure is not an option. Besides Lloyd Hiller and Bill Robinson, Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame members Berne Glover and Ross Capshaw influenced Rick's early years. He'd like to thank the members of El Paso Brass, El Paso band directors over the many years, Ida Steadman, Eddie Green, Gurer Aykal, Andy Sealy and especially Kenny Capshaw for their encouragement, musical stimulation and support during his career.

Throughout his years as an educator Rick has impacted many lives. His drive and passion for performing music has served as a model to many. Scores of his students are playing their instruments professionally. Others hold teaching positions in major universities as band director or studio teacher. Some have other careers but are still strongly influenced by his unyielding commitment to excellence. He feels truly fortunate to have been associated with these people.

Rick is most appreciative of his wife Barbara, a musician who shares his love of music and who is also being honored as Bandmaster of the Year. Rick's family members bring him the greatest joy in his life: sons Rick Jr., Chris (Lambrecht), and Chris (Prentice), daughter-in-law Stephanie and grandsons Ryan, Collin and Mason.